It's August 23rd.

My wrist is killing me because I was — I crocheted too much stuff and I typed too much stuff. So, camera's dirty. You would think I would notice this before I turn the video on, but apparently not.

(to cat offscreen) I'm sorry, pretty kitty. Am I knocking stuff Overse on top of you?

My wrist hurts. So, I can't type, can't crochet, and I also can't go outside because it's once again thunderstorming. So, all — literally every other activity I could be doing today would make my wrist hurt worse. This shouldn't hurt my wrist hurt worse. To be safe, I'll just be holding the book in this hand or sitting it in my lap.

It's August, what did I say? 23rd? 23rd, 2025.

Can I open the fucking menu phone? Thank you.

This will be the fourth video of me reading the whole entire Murderbot Diaries series.

Uh, we are on book one. We're reading them in publishing order — in case this is the first video any of you are watching for some reason cuz you're not paying attention to the video numbers.

They're all in a playlist, and if you're watching this on YouTube, they're also all in the Internet Archive. If you're —

What the fuck is that? Some sticker residue on the front of the book that wasn't on here before. That because — Oh, because I sat, sat the other book on top of it. That's irritating as fuck. All right, pro tip. Don't put a nice book that doesn't have any sticker residue under a book that has sticker residue.

Um, if you're watching on YouTube, uh, all of the videos will have links to all of the other videos and then a little “you are here” button.

Um, also the third video got marked by YouTube as 18+for some reason, even though none of the other ones have. And it's weird. I guess it's just more of their weirdo censorship. “Uh, let's just violate

people's privacy and pretend we're doing it to protect children.”

Also, I have bike grease on my hands. Let me go wash my hands.

All right. Anyways, uh, all the videos will have links to the other videos if you're on YouTube. If you're watching it on the Internet Archive, they're all in one spot, so obviously you don't need an explanation.

We had just gotten to chapter 4, and unlike chapter 1, 2, and 3, chapter 4 doesn't have an entire whole fucking blank page in front of it, despite already having a line break. So, I don't even know what's going on here, because the other chapters have whole entire blank pages, plus — I meant page break. This is a page break where it stops at the end of the page.

Um, the other ones have blank pages to further fill out this absolutely pathetic page count to try and make the book seem longer than it is. Uh, this one doesn't do that. So, they're not even being consistent in the scam, which I think is even more insulting.

Like, if you're going to do that, at least commit to being consistent about it.

Anyways, Chapter 4.

> We flew through the night. The humans taking scans and discussing the new terrain past our assessment range.

Also, no, hold on. I have a fucking question.

What — again, again, I have to point out again, we don't know why the fuck they're here, but also in the grand scheme of things, why is — why does Martha Wells want us to just accept space colonization and terraforming of planets that already have indigenous life forms?

Why are we just supposed to accept that without question as totally fine and morally neutral?

Like, this planet that they're on, Preservation “bought an option” and they're here to decide if they want to buy more. But like. they don't seem to be here to

argue against wiping out every indigenous fucking life form by terraforming, which is what would happen.

We know that there's alien animals here. Nobody has done any effort to make sure none of the, the alien animals that they're fucking going to be wiping out, and are absolutely already fucking killing just by introducing all of the germs and shit in their bodies —

Um, nobody's done any work at all to make sure that none of them are people.

Like, if there's an alien planet that has alien life on it, why aren't you — why aren't you doing a million and one things, um, to just see if any of them are people? What? And then we're never supposed to think about this despite explicitly — despite explicitly there being alien life forms.

They get brought up on page one, and then they're never mentioned again. They're not fucking important. We're not supposed to care about them. Not supposed to care about any of the alien animals on any of these planets.

And then also later in the series especially, we're just like supposed to pretend that none of these fucking aliens are alive right now. So that the only aliens that matters, the alien remnants, aka xenomorph goop.

It's just fucking weird. And again, weird. It's just like...space colonization in in a sci-fi setting where we're supposed to believe that regular colonization is bad, and presumably think that driving species extinct is bad. Why aren't we having a conversation about this?

What — also, again, the whole ART’s owners own — there — it's a university that owns an entire solar system or something like that.

And again, that's just presented as completely morally neutral and not like, okay, but do you understand the ramifications of what you're fucking saying?

She does — she doesn't care, though.

Anyways, um, yeah, let me reread that first paragraph, chapter 4.

My god, my wrist hurts.

> We flew through the night, the humans taking scans and discussing the new terrain past our assessment range.

It also — no hold on again I have to interrupt.

Um this is supposedly after the Preservation team “realized” — many, many, many quotes around “realized” — that Murderbot was a person “they immediately started treating it well.”

And it's like, uh, that's ,that so-called “realization” has already happened and we know when we get to the rest of the series, uh, that's that wasn't a realization. They're just fucking liars.

Uh, they know that robots are people. They know that Murderbot is not a robot.

They think — there's, there's, they're just liars. Martha Wells is so fucking bad at writing, she can't even not make her characters, who are already bad

enough by going out of their way to rent out a slave, they're even worse now because they are just lying.

And she is lying to us to try and convince us to be okay with the slave owners and, and think they're just pure in innocent cinamon rolls.

What was I saying? Ow, my wrist hurts.

Uh...

> it was especially interesting for them to see what was there now that we knew our map wasn't exactly reliable.

That's part of the first paragraph.

> Mensah gave everybody watch shifts, including me. This was new, but not unwelcome, as it meant I had blocks of time where I wasn't supposed to be uh paying attention and didn't have to fake it. Mensah, Pin-Lee, and Overse were all taking turns as pilot and co-pilot, so I didn't have to worry so much about the

> autopilot trying to kill us. And I could go on standby and watch my stored supply of serials.

Like, this whole thing here is what people frame as, “see, they're treating it really well.” But that's not even — that's — no, that's not what's happening here.

That's just everybody getting a shift on lookout, presumably to make everybody, mostly Rathi, and everybody else feel like they're doing something important.

This isn't specifically going out of their way to give Murderbot rest breaks. This is them making Murderbot work part of the time.

That's different from “you get a rest break on purpose explicitly to give you a rest break”. Especially because this whole leading up to this they have not — no, they're just treating it like a slave.

We, we established that in the video before this. If you're watching these out of order uh, well, you, you

know what you're getting into. You're watching them out of order. You can deal with the confusion.

> We'd been in the air a while and Mensah was piloting with Pin-Lee in the co-pilot seat when Rathi turned in his seat to face me and said, "We heard...we were given to understand that

Oh boy. Martha Wells, you're so shit at fucking writing and such a fucking raging bigot. Wow.

> Rathi turned in his seat to face me and said, "We heard, we were given to understand that Imitative Human Bot Units

That's all capitalized. Imitative capital I, human capital H, capital B, units capital U.

I am — I — HBU, would would be what that acronym is, but this literally never comes up again because nobody ever fucking calls them this.

So like, legitimately, in-universe, the only thing I have left to conclude from this fucking statement Overse

here is that this “Imitative Human Bot Units”, that's a thing Rathi has to have just fucking made up to pretend that — to further the lie that they “just didn't know Murderbot was a person, they don't have robots where they come from, they — how were they supposed to know robots are people and that Murderbot isn't a robot and therefore is a person and it's morally fucking evil of them to treat it like a slave?”

Yeah. This, this Imitative Human Bot Units, this is not mentioned before this and it's not mentioned after this for the whole 12 stories that exist in this series so far.

Literally in-universe, this fucking phrase, this title thing, it doesn't exist outside of this single sentence. So, literally, I am forced to conclude that Rathi just made — they all made this shit up to further convince Murderbot that they, they just didn't know it was a person, uh, it shouldn't be mad at them for enslaving it. They had no clue.

Even though, you know, um, all of the so-called, so called 52 pages before this — it hasn't been 52 pages. It's been 42 pages, but they're fucking lying to us. Um, yeah — Every other scene in this book has happened before now where they continue to treat it as a slave, even after supposedly “realizing” it was a person.

Uh, no. I, I have to assume now that they just made those Imitative Human Bot Units, they just made that up to further the lie that they just didn't know.

Like there's no other possible conclusion. What other possible conclusion am I supposed to make in-universe when this, this Imitative Human Bot Units, that never comes up before now? It wasn't established before now. It doesn't continue being mentioned in the rest of this book and then has never come up *ever again* in the entire rest of the series.

There's literally no other conclusion I can possibly come to. Like, that's that's how this works. If the only time a thing gets said is when the fucking slave owner is saying it to pretend that they had no clue that

enslaving people was wrong, the only possible conclusion it's possible to come to within what we fucking establish in the goddamn books is that they just made that shit up right there on the fucking spot.

Let me restart that dumbass thing.

> We'd been in the air a while and when and Mensah was piloting with Pin-Lee in the co-pilot seat when Rathi turned in in his seat to face me and said, "We heard we were given to understand that human imitate that Imitative Human Bot Units are ... partially constructed from cloned material."

And again, this is just more Martha Wells lying to the audience because she doesn't want us to realize — despite her then admitting it in interviews and just flat out telling people, "Yes, they're cyborgs."

She doesn't want 90% of 99.99% of the audience to realize that we're talking about cyborgs.

That's why she let them put it's a fucking android and a droid on the back, because she knows that if people understand that Murderbot is a cyborg and so are the rest of the enslaved cyborgs, that the whole entire conversation surrounding this book needs to change completely and utterly.

Also, I feel like the fucking margin has gotten bigger. Maybe it's just...I don't know. Has this — Has this margin at the fucking bottom of the page gotten bigger? Look how disgustingly huge that is. It's ridiculous.

> Rarely, I stopped the show I was watching. I didn't like where this might go. All of that information is in the common knowledge database, plus in the brochure the company provides with the specifics of the types of units they use, which he knew being a scientist and whatever. And it wasn't the kind of h — and he wasn't the kind of human who asked about things he could look up himself through a feed. “That's true.” I said very careful careful to make my voice sound just as neutral as always.

> Rathi's expression was troubled. “But surely ... it's clear you have feelings.” I flinched. I couldn't help it.

And it's like again, Martha Wells is so racist.

Like, the only way you could have a slave who wants to dehumanize itself is if you're fucking weird about slavery, which is what she is.

> Overse had been working in the feed analyzing data from the assessments. She looked up frowning. “Rathi, what are you doing?”

And again, this is all supposed to be funny and quirky of uh asking the dog, "What do you have in your mouth? What do you have in your mouth?" We're, yeah, it's supposed — We're, we're not — again, there's literally nothing here to take this seriously.

This, This could be a serious actually fucking painful deep conversation about dehumanization and depersonalization and derealization. So many fucking things we could be having a conversation about right

now, but we're just going to make it funny and light-hearted.

Rathi shifted guilty.

Also, this is Doctor Rathi. That's his last name.

“I know Mensah asked us not to, but” he waved a hand. “You saw it.”

And again, we're supposed to be acting like these people are treating Murderbot like a person as soon as they realize it's not a robot. As though they didn't know all of this shit from the start.

And also, again, this is this ties in with Martha Wells's hatred of non-binary and other trans people. Uh,

he waved a hand. “You saw it.”

And, okay, for the fucking record, to preface this, I literally use it/its pronouns. Those are my fucking pronouns. I'm non-binary. My pronouns are it/its pronouns.

Um, anybody who's actually not a fucking slave ra — racist slave owner that we're supposed to think is a good person would not continue calling the slave by it/its pronouns without ever asking, like, that's just dehumanization.

They are dehumanizing Murderbot right now.

And it's specifically dehumanization and not just “respecting Murderbot's pronouns” because they have no fucking clue that Murderbot’s actual chosen pronouns, presumably, but not really —

— It's so much shit.

Martha Wells is such a shit writer and she hates non-binary people.

We're never going to be allowed to have any kind of fucking conversation about this shit without going through the whole goddamn thing.

They are dehumanizing Murderbot right now by continuing to treat it like an object and referring to it as an object with it/its pronouns.

If these people were supposed to be “realizing” Murderbot's a person and treating it like a person, then they wouldn't continue calling it/its pronouns, which is what *they call objects* and how they see it as a fucking object.

Murderbot has never said anything about “call me by it pronouns, those are the ones I like.”

These — This is just what the slave owners have been calling it the whole time to dehumanize it and treat it like an object.

And now they're continuing to do that.

And not one single one among them is like, "Hey, wait. Um, maybe we shouldn't be fucking calling the slave an it. Maybe we should ask the fucking slave what its goddamn pronouns are as the literal bare

fucking minimum, bare minimum level of treating it like a person.”

You can't treat someone like a person when they have —

Also, I just noticed how much the yellow of my shirt is reflecting onto the book and my wrist. That's funny.

This isn't treating Murderbot like a person. You're just dehumanizing it. Like they're literally just continuing the dehumanization.

Just because those *happen* to be Murderbot’s pronouns doesn't mean that that's not what these fuckers are doing.

Nobody asked it, ‘Hey, um I realized we've been calling you it like you're a fucking thing this whole time. Um that's that's pretty fucking shitty of us. Is there — what, what pronouns would should we call you? Are there any pronouns you prefer? What do you like? What would you rather we call you?”

And then Murderbot can say, "No, no, no, no. I do not want anything to do with that gender shit, get that the fuck away from me. My pronouns are it/its, those are the ones I like."

We could be having a conversation about that.

Martha Wells is incapable of having that conversation, though, because she hates non-binary people.

Again, I have to stress for the millionth fucking time, the only reason Murderbot is allowed to be non-binary and is allowed to use it/its pronouns is because it doesn't have any genitals. So therefore, Martha Wells thinks, well, it just can't have any gender because that's —

She's she's literally a fucking biological essentialist.

She literally is still equating sex to gender.

Whatever genitals you have in a Martha Wells story is what gender you are.

So, we can't — and she also just hates non-binary people and actual trans people. I can't stress that enough. She hates non-binary and trans people. Non-binary and other trans people because I'm tired of people act — I'm tired of binary trans people acting like the only trans people are binary trans people. Non-binary people are trans too!

So, we could — any, any author that's actually competent and not a raging fucking bigot who bases all of her worldview on biological essentialism of “how you're born dictates how you're allowed to live your life, including who you're allowed to fall in love with and who you're allowed to marry and what gender you're allowed to have” —

A competent author who actually gives a single fuck about any of the minorities that are supposedly represented in this book, we could be having a conversation about —

Let's, let's do a fucking count off, shall we?

We could be talking about dehumanization. We could be talking about gender identity.

We could be talking about reclaiming it/its pronouns as somebody who's repeatedly fucking dehumanized, which is what I'm doing.

You can't grow up autistic in this fucking society and go through your entire childhood being dehumanized and — it's not happening. So those are my pronouns because fuck all of these people. They're mine. They're fun. Those are my pronouns now.

Anyways, we could be talking about that, but we're not going to, because Martha Wells, she doesn't she doesn't think gender identity is a real thing.

It's all, in her mind, just based off of whatever genitals you have.

And that's not just established in this series. In her fantasy series, she literally had the protagonist check what genitals people had before he decided what pronouns he was going to fucking call them. Instead

of simply asking a single person, he's literally checking people's genitals to determine what pronouns he's going to fucking use for them. I'm not even joking.

Anyways, um where was it? Yeah. Uh, yeah, I just — they're, they're just dehumanizing Murderbot.

That's what they're doing right now by calling Murderbot its pronouns. Calling it an it. They're dehumanizing it because they are still treating it like a fucking slave. if they weren't treating it like a slave —

We in-universe, out of universe, we know that the reason they don't ask Murderbot's pronouns is because Martha Wells hates us.

Genuinely, she fucking hates us. She doesn't want us to exist. We make things too complicated for her because she worships the gender binary and worships the fucking the white western gender binary in fucking particular.

Uh, that's the out of universe reason that these characters aren't simply asking Murderbot what its fucking pronouns are.

But in-universe, none of that matters. We don't — we shouldn't have in-universe —

This is what death of the author means!

Death of the author doesn't mean, “oh, J — Miku wrote Harry Potter, so, uh, it wasn't JK Rowling who wrote all this bigoted shit, it was Miku. Uh, so that means I get to ignore all of the bigotry that's in the books and just pretend it's fine because I'm claiming the Vocaloid singer actually wrote it.”

As though the only problem with the Harry Potter books is that a bad person's name is on the cover and not that the bad person whose name is on the cover put bad shit in the fucking books.

So, in-universe, they are still treating Murderbot like a slave.

They are continuing to dehumanize it.

Like imagine for just five fucking seconds right now, if Murderbot didn't use it/its pronouns!

If it/its pronouns were only ever a source of fucking violence and dehumanization toward it, which is what's happening in the story, but because Martha Wells is too much of a bigot to have any kind of conversation about this shit.

So imagine Murderbot used she/her pronouns and then these slave owners are just here literally referring to, in this case, her as an it the whole time.

Do you understand now why this is like fucking evil shit?

Like, yes, Murderbot does use it/its pronouns. And no, this is not an excuse for any of you to misgender it.

I know this is hard to wrap your binary, probably cis brains around, but real people use it/its pronouns.

Like me, real fucking people use these pronouns.

Just because Martha Wells wrote this book in the most bigoted fucking way possible doesn't mean you get to misgender Murderbot and decide it has to have other pronouns.

Because any excuse you use to misgender Murderbot and make Murderbot stop using its pronouns is the shit people say to me, a real fucking person.

What you *should* be doing instead is actually fucking having meaningful conversations about dehumanization, fucking reclaiming parts of this shit.

We could — all of this shit —

Literally all of this shit, you have to have meaningful conversations about it instead of just say, "Okay, um, well, I'll just have Murderbot use different pronouns. That's totally progressive, right?"

And it's like, no, it's not, because people like me literally exist. Making Murderbot stop using it/its pronouns doesn't fix anything in here.

Having meaningful conversations about it, its pronouns and dehumanization and reclaiming shit would it — wouldn't fix what's already in the book, but it can fix the fandom's fucking ideas of how all of this shit works and so much, so much.

Like, yeah, this is Murderbot’s fucking slave owners, continuing to dehumanize it, continuing to treat it as a slave.

All of the things that — all of the conversation that I'm about to read again, it's all just like the definition of performative outrage and performative allyship.

They're still slave owners.

They're still treating Murderbot like a slave, but now they're pretending to Murderbot, and to us, more importantly, out of universe, to us, the audience, this is Marth Martha Wells trying to convince us that

they're not really slave owners, cuz uh, they think slavery is bad.

All right, that doesn't change the fact that they are slave owners owning a slave right fucking now, that they went solar systems out of their way to get and use as a meatshield.

Also, I, I'm not watching the fucking TV show, but I have heard from people who went from watching the TV show to reading the books that in the TV show, these motherfuckers actually immediately told Murderbot, "We think slavery is wrong. You can do literally whatever the fuck you want while we're here."

I don't, I don't know anything else past that, but apparently they actually did the bare minimum of people who supposedly think slavery is wrong, where they literally actually told the slave, "You can do literally whatever you want. We're not going to treat you like a slave. You are our equal.”

That happened in the fucking TV show, apparently. Maybe I'm wrong. I just heard it secondhand.

But uh, well, yeah, secondhand from multiple people who've, who've gone from that, to this, where they literally just treat it like a slave and then we're still supposed to like them, and pointing out “uh this is very House Elf coded” and in the most derogatory way possible, because it's like, “so we go from the TV show where Murderbot is actually confident and knows what it's doing and, and hates humans, honestly” which, thank fuck, Martha Wells really wants to pretend that it does in this and it doesn't.

It worships their fucking feet — the feet their ground — the ground their feet walk on. Whatever the I just fucked up that phrase. I don't give a shit.

Murderbot worships slave owners in this story, but we just keep getting told, "Oh, it hates humans." No, it doesn't. You're a fucking liar and a racist liar.

But in the TV show, it apparently does genuinely resent humans and actually like gets to talk back and

shit or something. I don't know. I haven't watched it. I'm not fucking going to.

Uh yeah. Anyways, this is this whole conversation that's about to follow. This is just window dressing… No, there's a phrase I'm looking for. This is like...I don't know.

It's, it's just it's just purely performative.

But people love to to quote from this tiny shitty conversation that doesn't even take up half the page. I don't think — maybe it, it wouldn't take up half the page if this margin were here.

Uh, this, this conversation right here that ends without anything happening. Um this is what people love to quote to pretend that “see? the PreservationAux team aren't slave owners. They said slavery's bad.”

> He w — uh — Rathi shifted guilty. I know Mensah asked us not to but he waved a hand. You saw it,

dehumanizing murderbot.

> Overse pulled her interface off. You're upsetting it, she said, teeth gritted.

Another dehumanization, but we're going to pretend that's not what's going on.

> That's my point, he gestured in frustration. The practice is disgusting. It's horrible. It's slavery. This is no more a machine than Gurathin is. Exasperated, Overse said. And you don't think it knows that again.

They've literally just dehumanized Murderbot three fucking times in this conversation and they're talking about it not only like an object, but like it's not even fucking there.

Again, again, again, I have to stress again, I literally use it/its pronouns. I was fucking using these pronouns before I found this series. I thought it was fucking hilarious.

But this is not how you respect people who use it/its pronouns. This is just dehumanization. Dehumanization, racist and ableist dehumanization, explicitly in-universe done to justify enslaving these people and pretending that it's progressive.

Again, in order for this to be progressive about people who use it/its pronouns, we would have to actually have conversations about so many fucking things that Martha Wells is incompetent to have conversations about because she hates us too much.

She hates she hates anybody who's not white or she wouldn't be shilling for Apple and telling poor people to pay them their fucking grocery money to reward them for whitewashing her own protagonist.

She fucking hates physically disabled people and she hates non-binary and trans people. She hates everybody that Murderbot is supposed to represent.

So, we're not going to ever have a conversation in this series about any of this shit.

The slave owners are dehumanizing Murderbot by calling it an it. Just because Murderbot does actually use those pronouns doesn't mean that's not what they're doing, because they don't know that! They are just continuing the dehumanization that they started when they rented Murderbot out. They are continuing the dehumanization that the people who enslaved Murderbot in the first place started.

It's it's just dehumanization. That's what it is.

That's why so many people finish reading this book where Murderbot never gets to fucking tell a single person, or even think to itself about what its pronouns are, and everybody's like, "Okay, well, I can't call it it, can I? Because they're just dehumanizing them." Usually, they go with he because they think female characters can't be funny or sarcastic. Sometimes they'll go with she and then sometimes to be quote unquote progressive they'll go with they even. It's like no.

Yeah. It's it's terribly fucking written.

Yeah. So, three counts of “let's actively dehumanize Murderbot by referring to it as an it despite this supposedly being where they treat it like a person.”

You know, if they were really treating Murderbot like a person, they would ask it, "What are your pronouns? What what pronouns would you rather we refer to you as with?"

They haven't even asked Murderbot what its fucking name are.

Just a few pages ago in, chapter 3, wasn't it? Uh, that was the first time we hear one of them refer to Murderbot as SecUnit, as though that's its fucking — Yeah, there it is. Uh, page 51, aka 41.

> Arada said, "I agree. I think you should take SecUnit. You don't know what's go what's going on out there

Because just that's just more dehumanization. That's like pointing — that's literally saying you should take

Slave as though slave is its fucking name. “You should take Meatshield.”

It's, it's shit writing. It's racist.

It's, again, not taking slavery seriously.

It's all just terrible fucking writing and just dehumanization. Again, I can't stress that enough.

> “That's my point.” He gestured in frustration. “The practice is disgusting. It's horrible. It's slavery. This is no more a machine than Gurathin is.”

And it's like, yeah, you guys know, even if it were more of a machine than Gurathin, you're supposed to believe that robots are people and deserve to be treated like equals.

The whole entire point of this series is supposed to be that “robots are people too.” So, where does that fucking go?

Because all of these people keep saying shit like “less sentient than a hauler bot” or “this is no more a machine than Gurathin is”.

So, if it were an actual android or droid, you would think it doesn't deserve fucking rights.

Like legitimately, this is this is what being a shit fucking racist writer leads you to.

And again, Rathi is just saying this.

> “It's disgusting. It's horrible. It's slavery.”

But you guys are the slave owners. You've been treating Murderbot like a slave this whole time. You're still actively treating it like a slave and dehumanizing it. Not one single one of these motherfuckers has still thanked Murderbot for risking its life to save two of their fucking friends.

They haven't asked it what its fucking name is.

They haven't asked it for its fucking pronouns.

They're still not giving it actual breaks for itself.

They're just putting it on a fucking work roster with everybody else. That's not the same fucking thing. They're — there's — they're still treating it like a fucking slave. They're still dehumanizing it. They are still treating it not like a fucking person. This is fucking ridiculous.

> Exasperated, Overse said, "And you don't think it knows that?"

And it's just like Jesus Christ. It's ridiculous. Martha Wells is so fucking racist.

> I'm supposed to let the clients do and say whatever they want to me. And with an intact governor module, I wouldn't have a choice. I'm also not supposed to snitch on clients to anybody except the company. But it was either that or jump out the hatch.

Also, hold on. No, “I'm not supposed to snitch on clients to anybody except the company.” That just can't be true.

That's not — That's not how this works, because you're supposed to be programmed to follow orders of the person in charge.

And saying I — that doesn't — that just genuinely doesn't make any fucking sense because if some — if two some of the clients are fucking planning a mutiny, you would be required to tell the person — aka snitching on them —

Or, unless Martha Wells is going to do that thing where she pretends graffiti isn't graffiti if it's pretty and pretend that snitching on people isn't snitching if it's snitching like — that's just a nonsensical statement.

And it's just again very bad writing because saying shit like that, especially in a book as short as this, doesn't even fill out a centimeter when you and your fucking shitty publisher have done everything

possible to stretch it out as much as possible? That matters.

Saying “I'm not supposed to snitch on clients to anybody except the company” You're trying to establish the world and you're just making shit up that doesn't even make sense.

> I sent the conversation into the feed tagged for Mensah. From the cockpit, she shouted, "Rathi, we talked about this."

And again, it's supposed to be funny. It's, "Haha, I told mom on you” because we're just treating Mensah as the mom of the group because misogyny and racism.

She's the only Black woman in the group that we know of, because literally no other character has a fucking desri — description of any level at all.

So again, it's it's misogynoir of mom-ifying Black women and saying “now she has, she has the only brain cell in the group. She's everybody's mom.” So

she's literally yelling at Rathi like he's a literal literal fucking child.

And again, this is all supposed to be funny. And so is this part.

> I slid out of the seat and went to the back of the hopper as far away as I could get, facing the supply lockers and the head. It was a mistake. It wasn't a normal thing for a SecUnit with an intact governor module to do, but they didn't notice.

And again, Murderbot’s just facing into a wall, and it's supposed to be funny, because I'll give you all a fucking a tip here: If this weren't supposed to be funny, if this weren't supposed to be light-hearted, we would be going into detail about Murderbot's fucking emotions right now, we would get like two fucking pages at the very least of just describing what Murderbot is feeling so that we can take it seriously, but we're not supposed to take it seriously.

“I'll apologize,” Rathi was saying. “No, just leave it alone,” Mensah told him

Again, more dehumanization. More dehumanization.

“That would just make it worse.” Overse added.

And again, all of this is just dehumanization. — I just saw my marker. Where the fuck did it go? I have my computer turned off and I don't have to turn it back on just to open my notepad.

But yeah, literally everybody, all of the slave owners here are just continuing to dehumanize Murderbot and saying that no, you shouldn't apologize to a slave when you upset them, because that would make it worse. It's like, that's not how apologies work.

He should in fact be apologizing.

That's just basic fucking shit. They're they're all just encouraging more dehumanization. “Continue to treat the slave like a slave. Don't apologize when you upset it.”

Um also again, it's all just supposed to be a joke, because this is supposed to be Rathi being “oh haha so funny, so clueless.” It's just — it's just ridiculous.

> I stood there until they all calmed down and got quiet again, then slid into a seat in the back and resumed the serial I'd been watching.

And again, nothing actually going on there to let us take that scene seriously.

> It was in the middle of the night when I felt the feed drop out. I hadn't been using it, but I had felt the SecSystem feeds from the drones and the interior cameras back burnered and was accessing them.

There's a little line break here if I didn't fucking mention that line break. So, there's a new scene. Uh,

> and was accessing them occasionally to make sure everything was okay. The humans left behind in the habitat were more active than they usually were at this time, probably anxious

> about what we were going to find at DeltFall. I was hearing Arada walk around occasionally, though Volescu was snoring off and on in his bunk. Bharadwaj had been able to move back into her own quarters, but was restless and going Overse her field notes through the feed. Gurathin was in the hub doing something on his personal system. I wondered what he was doing and had just started to carefully poke around through a HubSystem to find out. When the feed dropped, it was like someone slapped the organic part of my brain.

And again, using purposefully weird metaphors and shit and just to make it all seem funny

> I sat up and said, "The satellite went down." The others, except for Pin-Lee, who was piloting, all grabbed for their interfaces. I saw their expressions when they felt the silence. Mensah pushed

(at the book) Stop moving, pages.

> Mensah pushed out of her seat and came to the back. “Are you sure it was the satellite?” “I'm sure,” I told her. “I'm pinging it and there's no response.” We still had our local feed running on the Hopper system, so we could communicate through it as well as the comm and share data with each other. We just didn't have nearly as much data as we'd have — as we'd have had if we still were still attached to HubSystem. We were far enough away that we needed this comm satellite as a relay. Rathi switched his — Rathi switched his interface to the hopper’s feed and started checking the scans. There was nothing on them except empty sky. I had — I had them back burnered, but I'd set them to notify me if they encountered anything like an energy reading or a large life sign. He said, "I just felt a chill. Did anyone else feel a chill a little?" Overse admitted, "It's a weird coincidence, isn't it?"

And again, them saying this is supposed to be funny and quirky and relatable.

"The damn satellites had periodic outages since we got here," Pin-Lee pointed out from the cockpit. “We just don't normally need it for comms.” She was right. I was supposed to check their personal logs periodically in case they were plotting to defraud the company or murder each other or something.

Even though we just fucking said, like two pages ago, that Murderbot’s not supposed to snitch on them to anybody except the company. But why would — So why would it have to keep track of whether or not they're planning to murder each other if not to snitch on that to the fucking person in charge, huh? Can you keep shit consistent for not even even five pages? The answer is no!

And the last time I looked at Pin-Lee, she had been tracking the satellite problems, trying to figure out if there was a pattern. It was one of the many things I didn't care about because the entertainment feed was only updated occasionally, and I downloaded it for local

> storage. Rathi shook his head. “But this is the first time we've been far enough far enough from the habitat to need it for comm contact. It just seems odd and not in a good way.”

He just repeated the same thing she just fucking said. She — the — like the second sentence she said was, "We just don't — it, it does this all the time. We just don't normally need it for comms." And then he repeats, "But this is the first time we've needed it for comms." And it's like, "Yeah, yeah."

> Mensah looked around at them. “Does anyone want to turn back?” I did, but I didn't get a vote

Because they're still treating it like a fucking slave even though all the rest of the fandom will be trying to convince you that this is “they're treating it like a person, they treat it — started treating it like a person as soon as they found out it was a person!!”

And they're they're referring to the first the very start of the fucking book where it risked its life and almost died protecting two of them.

Uh yeah, they literally are not treating it like a fucking person, and they're still treating it like a slave. That's why Murderbot doesn't get a fucking vote.

> The others sat there for a quiet moment. Then Overse said

Also, Murderbot does get a fucking vote. It could literally say some fucking shit about security protocol. Say “we have to turn around."

It could do that, but um, it's not going to do that, because Martha Wells doesn't actually want Murderbot to not want to die.

We're just supposed to want Murderbot to keep murdering other slaves.

That's, I guess that's spoilers for you if you're, uh coming into this without any context. Whatever.

> Overse said, "If it turns out the DeltFall group did need help and we didn't go, how would we

> feel?” “If there's a chance we can save lives, we have to take it." Pin-Lee agreed. Rathi sighed. “No, you're right. I'd feel terrible if anyone died because we were overcautious.” “We're agreed then,” Mensah said. “We'll keep going

Because again, Murderbot was correct. They're not giving it a vote.

It doesn't get a vote because they're not treating it like a fucking person. They are treating it like a fucking slave, even though it's already almost died to save two of their lives.

And then they immediately put it back to work before it's even fully healed, because it was only at 80%, not 100%. And then, and then still treating it like a slave. Every moment up until now.

> I would have preferred they be overcautious. I had

You could m — again, No, it's fucking — It's a lie.

If Murderbot actually wanted them to not be taking stupid risks, it could literally just say uh “client security protocol says that we have to turn around because we have no comms contact.” It could say that, it doesn't have to be true.

Murderbot is in fact capable of lying to people because it's doing that this whole time by pretending its governor module isn't hacked.

Which is the literally the only things the only thing ever that makes these people finally start treating Murderbot like a person, is when they realize it's not actually controlled by the governor module.

They are literally continuing to treat it like a slave because right now they think they can get away with it, *and they are getting away with it* because we're supposed to like them.

The only time they finally start treating Murderbot like a person is after they find out that it can, in fact, kill them if it fucking wants to, which it doesn't,

because Martha Wells is racist and is writing a slavery apologism series.

Again, that's literally what happens.

We're told, "Oh, they just didn't realize it was a person until it took its fucking helmet off to talk to somebody in the — Volescu in the crater."

As though they've never seen it without its helmet on. It's just so much bullshit. It's, it's all bullshit.

None of it makes sense when you actually think about it.

> I had 4 hours to my next scheduled watched, so I went into standby and buried myself in the downloads I'd stored away.

And again, it's just lazy, shallow, shitty writing that we never get to actually learn anything meaningful about any of the downloads that Murderbot is watching.

Also, Martha Wells is like, "Piracy's bad. You shouldn't do it.” Your fucking protagonist is pirating everything. You are shilling for Apple TV. You can shut the fuck up.

There's another little line break.

> It was dawn when we got there. DeltFall had established their camp in a wide valley surrounded by high mountains. A spiderweb of creek beds cut through the grass and stubby trees. There they were a bigger operation than ours with three linked habitats and a shelter for surface vehicles, plus a landing area for two large hoppers, a cargo hauler, and three small hoppers. It was all company equipment though, per contract, and all subject to the same malfunctions as the crap they dumped on us. There was no one outside, no movement, no no sign of damage, no sign any hostile fauna had approached. The satellite was still dead, but Mensah had been trying to get the DeltFall habitat on the comes on the come since we had come within range.

Mhm.

> “Are they missing any transports?” Mensah asked. Rathi checked the record of what they were supposed to have, which I'd copied from HubSystem before we left. “No, the hoppers are all there. The ground vehicles are in the shelter, I think.” I moved up

Also, I got to say before I fucking forget it — No, I will not bother.

This just doesn't make sense.

None of the — none of the villain — actions of the villains in this story actually fucking make any sense at all when you actually start to think about the story and think, “what should the villains be doing in this situation and what would they be doing if this were well written and characters actually get to have motivations of their own besides ‘just do whatever the plot requires to let the heroes win.’”

Well, I'll, I'll get into that more when we fucking get there.

> I had moved up to the front as we got closer. Standing behind the pilot seat, I said, "Doctor Mensah,"

Because again, they only get referred to as doctor in dialogue, which is just bad writing because it's completely inconsistent for no fucking reason.

> “I recommend you land outside their perimeter.” Through the local feed, I sent her all the info I had, which was what their automated systems were responding to the pings the hopper was sending, but that was it. We weren't picking up their feed, which meant their HubSystem was in standby. There was nothing from their three SecUnits, not even pings.

Also, it's more bad writing that we never get a fucking explanation for what a ping is. In this super sci-fi future, a ping has to have some kind of fucking

definition, but we never get it. It's just whatever the fuck. No explanation ever, because bad writing.

It's gen — It's genuinely just bad writing. A lot of fucking people are just falling for a whole bunch of anti-intellectual shit and saying that uh “exposition is bad because it's holding your hand.” No, you useless motherfuckers!

Exposition is a basic storytelling element that has existed since the history of fucking humans, since anybody started telling fucking stories.

It exists for a fucking reason, and it's because it's *a basic element of good storytelling*.

You refusing to do exposition doesn't make you clever. It, it's makes you a bad fucking writer. You're not writing fanfiction when you're selling books to people that's marketed as original fiction.

You do have to in fact explain this shit. I should get a fucking explanation for what a ping is. Just because you are a shit fucking coward who only reads

fanfiction and then the Murderbot Diaries, which is also just written exactly like fanfiction, doesn't mean that's how this works.

What the fuck is a ping? Somebody fucking explain to me what the fuck a ping is in this setting. What does it mean? What does it do? We don't fucking know, because Martha Wells is shit at writing and refuses to do any actual world building, including basic exposition.

> Overse in the co-pilot seat glanced up at me. “Why?”

So, I'll just read this dialogue because the dialogue in this book is shit.

> I said, "Doctor Mensah, I recommend you land outside their perimeter."

And then a Overse is like,

> "Why?"

Uh,

> I had to answer the question. So, I said “Security protocol.” which sounded good and didn't commit me to anything.

Like, Murderbot, you could — Martha Wells specifically, you could have just said that.

That could literally have been a reason why Murderbot argued that they turned the fuck around. But no, but no. No.

And again, we're supposed to — all of this whole shit that was going on, Overse here saying, "No, we would feel so bad if they got hurt because we turned around." It's trying to convince us, “See, they're good people. They care about people. They care about other humans. The people that they consider to be humans.”

They don't give a shit about Murderbot, a person they don't consider to be human, because they're dehumanizing it as a fucking slave.

They don't even care about the other people's slaves, and the story doesn't want *us* to either, because that's why they're going to be framed as rabid fucking animals.

> No one outside, no one answering the comm. Unless they had all jumped in their surface vehicles and gone off on vacation, leaving their hub and SecUnits shut down, they were dead. Pessimism confirmed.

And that's supposed to be a joke again.

> But we couldn't be sure without looking. The hopper scanners can't see inside habit — inside the habitats because of the shielding that's really only there to protect

uh I flipped too soon.

> proprietary data, so we couldn't get any life signs or energy readings. This is why I didn't want to come. I've got four perfectly good humans here and I didn't want them to get

> killed by whatever took out DeltFall. It's not like I cared about them personally, but it would look pretty bad on my record. And my record was already pretty terrible.

And again, this is Martha Wells trying to pretend that Murderbot um hates humans even though it worships the fucking ground —

No, I should specify slave owners, because human in this setting means slave owner. The people who are acknowledged to be human, they're all fucking slave owners. Literally. Uh, Murderbot's like, "Oh, I don't I don't care about them personally. It would just look bad on my record."

And it's like, okay, Martha Wells, why do you think a slave would care about whether their record looks good when having a bad record isn't going to do anything to Murderbot? It's not going to be punished for it.

“Uh, it's not like I cared about them personally. It would just look bad.”

And it's like, again, Martha Wells downplaying what slavery is and expecting us to worship the slave owners and want Murderbot to admit that it really does love these these ~awesome adorable slave owners~.

“We're just being cautious,” Mensah said,

answering Overse after how much of non dialogue again. The, the dialogue is so spaced out between other shit that it's like impossible to actually follow the conversation.

So it goes, Murderbot saying, "Doctor Mensah, I recommend you land outside their perimeter."

Overse said, "Why?"

Mensah finally fucking answered her and said, "We're just being cautious."

Nothing else. Nothing else. That's the conversation.

> I gave Mensah a few hints through the feed. That they should break out the hand weapons in the survival gear, that Rathi should stay behind inside the hopper with the hatch sealed and locked since he'd never done the weapons training course. And that most important, I should go first.

And again, we're we're leaving Rathi behind because we're just treating him like a comic relief buffoon who's incompetent because he's a brown man.

And then then it's supposed to pretend to be feminist by saying that the brown man is incompetent. So that means it's — Martha Wells thinks that pretending that racism is really feminism is a good thing. And it's like, no, you're just doing racism.

Uh...

> they were quiet, subdued. Up until now, I think they had all been looking at this as probably a natural disaster that they were going to be digging survivors out of a collapsed habitat or

> helping fight off a herd of Hostile Ones. This was something else. Mensah gave the orders and we started forward. Me in front, the humans a few steps behind. They were in their full suits with helmets which gave some protection but it had been meant for environmental hazards not some other heavily armed human (or angry malfunctioning rogue SecUnits)

That's in parenthesis.

> deliberately trying to kill them. I was more nervous than Rathi who was jittery on our comms monitoring the scans and basically telling us to be careful every other step

Because again it's supposed to be funny. It's supposed to be funny. We can't actually take this seriously.

> I had my built-in energy weapons and the big project projectile weapon I was cradling. I also had six drones pulled from the hopper supply and under my control through its feed. They

> were the small kind barely a centimeter across. No weapons, just cameras. They make some which aren't much bigger and have a small pulse weapon, but you have to get one of the upper tier company packages mostly designed for much larger contracts. I told the drones to get in the air and gave them a scouting pattern. I did that because it seemed sensible, not because I knew what I was doing.

Because Martha Wells loves trying to pretend that Murderbot just doesn't know what it's doing. “It's really bad at its job. It's not per — It's not a Mary Sue. Trust me, it's not. Oh, it's really bad at its job.”

And then just has it do all kinds of shit that never fails because she wants to pretend that Murderbot is an underdog, and therefore we should cheer for it, but then she never actually wants Murderbot to really lose a fight in a meaningful way.

So Murderbot doesn't ever actually fuck anything up because of its own bad choices because it genuinely “doesn't know what it's doing”.

It knows what it's doing.

She just lies and pretends it doesn't to pretend that it's a fucking underdog and not completely overpowered.

I am not a combat murderbot. I am security.

Again, I have to say, any editor worth any money at all, let alone a supposedly professional editor with a professional editing publishing company, should have chopped out every redundancy in this fucking book.

There are so many completely useless, redundant fucking bullshit that shouldn't exist.

We don't need combat bots, combat units, combat murderbots. Just shut the fuck up! No!

And you're about to see it's going to get worse. We're going to be at the part, there's a scene that we're about to get to pretty soon that's exists purely for the sake of letting Martha Wells write a scene where the

slave tries to kill itself heroically to protect its slave owners.

Not presented as a horrifying thing, it’s presented as, "Yeah, what a good slave killing itself to protect its slave owners. How beautiful. What a good person." That's legitimately what it is.

And it's — This is the start of the ridiculous fucking redundancies.

> I'm not a combat murderbot. I'm security.

That's why Murderbot wins every single fight it ever gets into. Unless the plot — Unless literally the plot says, "Okay, but it’s got to kind of lose this one."

Like, it's just lies. It's lies. “I'm not — I'm not trained for combat. That's why I beat everybody. Trust me.”

That's — yeah, it's it's again just trying to lie to you to pretend that Murderbot is an underdog, because, pretending that it's an underdog, therefore, you want to cheer for it.

Therefore, you'll ignore all of the horrific things that it does and the fact that it never actually loses a fight in a meaningful way.

> I keep things from attacking the clients and try to gently discourage the clients from attacking each other. I was way out of my depth here, which was another reason I didn't want the humans to come here.

Except, Murderbot, if Martha Wells keeps —

Yeah, Martha Wells keeps trying to convince us that Murderbot doesn't want anybody doing this cuz it's too dangerous. But then she didn't just have Murderbot even try to claim, “hey, security protocols say we got to go back or your warranty on this ship and also me will expire” and then it could just say anything it wants.

It is — it can — it's been lying to these people the whole time. It can it can lie for a good fucking reason.

Like it could at least — it could have even fucking hacked —

Look, look, Okay? Murderbot could have said, "Hey, security protocols demand that we turn the fuck around." And then they could have been like, "Well, we don't care about that." It could have hacked the fucking computer, the, the the helicopter that they're in.

And said, "Oh, uh, yeah, the security protocol just engaged itself automatically. Sorry, it's going to turn itself around now. The autopilot's taken over. Nothing I can do about it.”

We could have done that, but no, because Martha Wells wants them to go here specifically.

The only purpose to any of this shit going on right now is so that she can write the scene where the slave tries to ~heroically, beautifully~ kill itself to protect its slave owners.

I'm not even joking. That's the point of all of this fucking side quest.

So she can write the scene that she's been wanting to write the whole time, where the slave tries to kill itself to protect its slave owners. Not even joking.

> We crossed the shallow —
> Yeah, I was way out of my depth here, which was another reason I hadn't wanted the humans to come here

And like, you didn't put up any argument, even though you are capable of putting up an argument and framing it as “blame this on the company. The company makes these rules. I don't, I don't make the rules. I just have to follow them.”

So, literally anything like that.

No, because uh the plot, and by the plot I mean the scene she's wanted to write the whole time where the slave heroically tries to kill itself to protect its slave owners, so she can live out her fantasy of being such

a nice slave owner that her slaves would try to kill themselves protect her — That's what's going on here. That's the premise of this whole fucking book.

> We crossed the shallow streams

As though we'd established *clearly* at any point that there were streams here,

> sending a group of water invertebrates
> scattering away from our boots.

Look how many fucking indigenous life forms are on this fucking planet!

There's little water invertebrates and, and we're just supposed to pretend that it's completely morally neutral for the PreservationAux team to even be here doing shit, planning to colonize the fucking planet, even though they're supposed to be the good guys who are supposed to think colonization is bad.

But not really, because it'll be good when they do it.

> The trees were short and sparse enough that I had a good view of the camp from this angle. I couldn't detect any DeltFall.

What do you mean this angle? What angle are you at? We have — we — You'll notice the complete lack of descriptions of the scene that they're in.

Like, “oh, we crossed some shallow streams and there's short sparse trees.” That doesn't actually tell us anything about where you're standing. Are you up on a fucking hill above their thing? Are you looking down into it? We don't fucking know because it's badly fucking written.

> I couldn't detect any DeltFall security drones by eye or with the scanners on my drones.

That's just redundant using drones where both in that sentence that could have been done better.

> Rathi in the hopper wasn't picking up anything either. I really really wished I could pinpoint the

> location of those three SecUnits, but I wasn't getting anything from them.

Okay, before we continue, that line was the end of a paragraph.

We're on page 62, aka 52, because there's 10 blank pages between the and nonstory pages between what is actually page 1 and what they're claiming is page 9. We're on page, according to these fuckers, 62. It's actually 52.

We're 52 pages into the series.

Okay, if we just stopped this whole rest of this book and threw it in the fucking garbage, and left off and then built forward from this last line here: “I really, really wished I could pinpoint the location of those three SecUnits but I wasn't getting anything from them.”

I'm actually going to really stop this video right here and just talk.

Um, this is the perfect spot. If we just stopped the — just throw — take everything after that line and throw it in the fucking garbage, this could still be salvageable, because Murderbot — we could be taking “Murderbot really really wants to figure out where the other slaves are” —

And say —

I shouldn't even have to explain this.

I swear to fucking God, this shouldn't have to be a thing that I have to say like this.

If you are, if you are reading these, if you're watching this video before you watch any of the other videos in this series, all linked in the fucking description if you're on YouTube, it's also a playlist. And if you're on the Internet Archive, they're all there. I don't know why you would be watching them out of order. Maybe you clicked on one and didn't notice or something.

If you are coming into the series without any fucking context and have managed to ignore everything else

I've said about spoilers for the series, I hate to be the one to fucking tell you this, 52 pages into the fucking story, but this line of “the slave really wishes it could figure out where the other slaves are”, it's not saying that out of concern for their safety.

It's not saying that because it wants to make sure they're okay.

It's not saying that because it wants to find out what happened to them, because it cares about them.

It's saying that because this author, Martha Wells, is a white supremacist who fucking loves slavery and loves dehumanizing fucking —

Oh my Jesus Christ —

I'm actually just gonna have to stop the video because I'm so fucking pissed off about this, because Murderbot is saying, "I wish I knew where the other slaves were." Because Martha Wells is a racist fucking sack of shit who wants to do slavery apologism and pretend that —

You know, no, I'm, I'm pissed.

I'm — I'm done.

Goodbye.